

Proto, sister, Diana Proto Avino, and four of Mr. Proto's cousins.

His parents, Matthew and Celeste Proto, were active in Connecticut's civic and political life. Celeste immigrated to the United States in 1916 from Italy. Mr. Proto's pride for his Italian heritage led him to also found the Antonio Gatto Lodge of the Sons of Italy in Laurel, Maryland.

I am honored to join with others in praise for this remarkably-gifted and dedicated public servant from Connecticut. Mr. Proto's strategic and practical aid to the protection of our nation and our country's troops—from the Cold War to the Gulf War—is deserving of recognition and admiration. I ask my colleagues to join with me in honoring the life of this great man.

2009 TOP COPS—SERGEANT PAUL
E. JOHNSON

HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2009

Mr. REICHERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today recognizing the outstanding law enforcement officers across our country who received a 2009 TOP COPS award from the National Association of Police Organizations, NAPO. Today, especially, I want to highlight the work of a Sergeant in my home state of Washington and thank him for his exemplary public service.

Sergeant Paul E. Johnson of the Olympia Police Department was recognized as an Honorable Mention TOP COPS award recipient. Johnson, a Sergeant in the Patrol Unit, is a 29-year veteran of the Olympia Police Department and has served in various capacities, including several stints as a detective, as well as serving as Sergeant in the Narcotics Task Force and Detective Bureau. Johnson is known department- and city-wide for his attention to detail, his professionalism working with residents and staff, and the pride with which he wears his uniform: all hallmarks of policing "the Olympia way", a policy guided by professional enforcement, prevention, planning and coordination. Johnson's son, Corey, is also an officer with the Olympia Police Department and I wish him the very best throughout his career in law enforcement.

As a 33-year veteran of law enforcement and the co-chair of the Congressional Law Enforcement Caucus, this is a topic close to my heart and it is a pleasure to recognize a wonderful public servant such as Sergeant Paul E. Johnson—and the rest of the recipients around the country—for being honored by NAPO with a TOP COPS award. As this House and law enforcement officers continue to serve the people of the United States, I know this House will continue to serve and support our law enforcement officers.

A TRIBUTE IN RECOGNITION OF
THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF
JAPAN AMERICA SOCIETY OF
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2009

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Japan America Society of Southern California, a non-profit charitable and educational organization dedicated to fostering friendship, understanding and relationship building opportunities for the people of Japan and the United States, on the occasion of its 100th Anniversary.

Sixteen American and Japanese volunteer leaders in Los Angeles founded the Japan America Society of Southern California in 1909. These visionaries understood the long-term role that such a unique organization could play in their diverse community and were committed to its establishment during a period of increasing anti-Asian sentiment. The fledgling society soon grew to as many as 800 members by the time of the opening in Los Angeles of the first Consulate General of Japan in 1915.

Since those early, formative years, the Japan America Society has undertaken the primary responsibility for forging relationships between Americans and the Japanese in Southern California. Its mission is to promote mutual understanding and to strengthen economic, cultural, governmental and personal relationships between Americans and the Japanese.

The Japan America Society offers unique opportunities to become involved in the business and cultural relationship between the two countries. Its active calendar of events includes breakfast and luncheon programs, business networking mixers, weekend family events, and programs highlighting art, music, fashion, film, performing arts and other special activities. Annual events include the Anniversary Gala Dinner, Golf Classic & Tennis Open, Family Fishing Trip and Family Whale Watch Cruise, Japan America Kite Festival® and United States-Japan Green Conference.

Throughout the year of its Centennial, the Japan America Society is celebrating its history by presenting an extraordinary series of programs focusing on the United States-Japan relationship. It will showcase Japan-related programming through collaborations with numerous Japanese-American and Japanese organizations, and other cultural and educational organizations throughout Southern California and Japan.

The Japan America Society's Centennial Dinner & Gala Celebration, scheduled for June 15, 2009, at The Globe Theatre, Universal Studios Hollywood, will commemorate the important role of the United States-Japan relationship, past, present and future.

The future agenda of the Japan America Society includes the establishment of a Japan America Language Center that will offer comprehensive introductory, advanced and business Japanese-language courses for Los Angeles residents. These language courses will be designed to build and improve upon the language skills of non-native Japanese speakers so they can more fully appreciate Japanese history and culture and open doors to

lasting personal and professional relationships. Other specialized courses and workshops will be offered, including shodō (Japanese calligraphy). In addition, the Center will cater to native Japanese speakers living in Los Angeles by providing English conversation (ESL) classes and a Japanese Language Teacher Training Program.

The society also plans to expand the elementary school Hitachi Japanese Kite Workshops that take place throughout Southern California, including Los Angeles, every fall. The workshops are "hands-on," in-classroom special events that help to teach our very young children the concept of different perspectives. They also provide a positive introduction to Japan and Japanese culture through the building of a traditional Japanese kite. Led by Japanese kite masters from Japan, elementary students learn how to build and fly a Japanese bamboo and washi (rice paper) kite. To date, nearly 4,000 students have benefited from this program.

Madam Speaker, on the occasion of the Japan America Society of Southern California's 100th Anniversary, I join today with fellow leaders from throughout the state in recognizing Board Chairman Robert Brasch, Co-Vice Chairs Kappei Morishita and Nancy Woo Hiromoto, President Douglas Erber, the Board of Directors, the Board of Governors and the organization's employees and members for their outstanding work to promote mutual understanding and friendship between Japan and the United States. I extend my thanks on behalf of the residents of the 34th Congressional District for their passion to provide educational opportunities for school children and their determination to strengthen economic, cultural, governmental and personal relationships between Americans and Japanese, and I wish them many years of continued success.

EDWIN WAY TEALE HISTORICAL
MARKER

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2009

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, it is my distinct honor to take this time to recognize the Indiana Historic Bureau's unveiling of one of their 500 historical markers to honor the late Pulitzer Prize author, photographer, naturalist, and former Porter County, Indiana, resident, Edwin Way Teale (1899–1980). The historical marker is located at the center of Furnessville, Indiana, where Edwin Way Teale and his family once lived. Furnessville, a community with undefined borders, lies between Pine and Westchester townships, at the north end of Porter County. An unveiling ceremony of the historical marker will take place on Saturday, May 30, 2009, in the center of Furnessville near Musette Lewry, estate of the late American Naturalist, Edwin Way Teale.

Edwin Way Teale put Furnessville on the map with his autobiographical book *Dune Boy: The Early Years of a Naturalist*. The book was an account of the time he spent as a child on the farm owned by his grandparents, Edwin and Jemina Way, discovering the dunes of Northwest Indiana. In 1915, his grandparents' farm burned down. Next, The Maples, in the center of Furnessville, became home to his

grandparents, and many years later, was the home of Teale's wife, Nellie, and their son, David. Eventually, Musette Lewry was built on this foundation. Trent D. Pendley, who purchased Teale's home in Furnessville, applied for the State Historical Marker, which was approved in October 2007 by the Indiana State Library after undergoing significant study. There are only about 500 of these larger markers throughout the State of Indiana. The criteria for the State Historical Marker is based on the national significance of the site or honoree.

Edwin Way Teale was born on June 2, 1899, in Joliet, Illinois. As a child, his fondest memories were the summer months he spent on the Furnessville farm owned by his grandparents. It was this time spent in Indiana, as a child, that became the backdrop for Teale to discover his love, respect, and wonder of nature. His grandparents gave him the freedom to explore the surrounding landscape, which became the most significant influence on his future career as a writer and naturalist. Teale went on to study English Literature and received a Bachelor of the Arts degree from Earlham College in Richmond, Indiana. During this time, he met his wife, Nellie Donovan, and they were married in 1923. Teale then began his writing career after graduating with a Master of the Arts degree from Columbia University in 1926. Edwin and Nellie had one son, David, who died in battle during World War II. In honor of their son, Edwin and Nellie collaborated on a four-book series detailing natural seasonal changes across the United States. In 1965, Teale won the Pulitzer Prize for *Wandering Through Winter*, a book that was part of this series, which is an account of the four winter months he and his wife spent traveling through the United States. He also won the John Burroughs Award for nature writing, and went on to publish thirty books in his lifetime. Edwin Way Teale passed away on October 18, 1980.

Madam Speaker, I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in commending the Indiana Historic Bureau's unveiling of the State Historical Marker to honor one of Northwest Indiana's finest citizens, Edwin Way Teale. For his notable, and highly respectable literary and environmental influence both nationally and in Northwest Indiana, he is worthy of the highest praise. I respectfully ask you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring Edwin Way Teale and acknowledging the Indiana State Historical Marker in his name as a tremendous source of pride for Northwest Indiana.

COMMENDING GUAM ANIMALS IN NEED (GAIN)

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2009

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the Guam Animals in Need, GAIN, organization for their service to our community and for their leadership in a recent effort to rescue greyhounds. After a greyhound race track closed on Guam, GAIN led efforts to rescue the greyhounds by finding caring owners on island to adopt the abandoned dogs, and by helping to transport the

majority of the greyhounds to shelters in the mainland.

Chartered in 1989, GAIN is a non-profit organization dedicated to preventing cruelty toward animals and to providing shelter for animals in need. GAIN's efforts have also included educating our community on animal welfare. In 2001, GAIN expanded its services by assuming management and operation of our island's animal shelter.

GAIN has led numerous initiatives over the years to improve animal welfare on Guam. It has been instrumental in taking stray animals off the streets and reducing the number of stray animals through the annual Spay Neuter Assistance Program, operated by visiting and local veterinarians and volunteers. This program has resulted in the sterilization of over 3,500 dogs and cats. GAIN also successfully partnered with local businesses and community organizations to provide support through the Adopt a Kennel project. These businesses and organizations are recognized with a sign placed on their sponsored kennel. Furthermore, GAIN has facilitated the adoption of thousands of animals by caring pet owners through their Shelter Adoption Program.

GAIN recently received national attention resulting from their efforts to help over two hundred greyhounds that needed homes after the sudden closure of the greyhound race track on Guam. For several months after the track's closure, GAIN rescued abandoned greyhounds in villages and remote areas. The organization and its members cared for these greyhounds and searched for responsible pet owners in our community to adopt them. GAIN worked with the management of the former race track to address the large number of greyhounds needing adoptive homes. GAIN partnered with mainland greyhound advocacy groups to help rescue the greyhounds on Guam, including the Greyhound Protection League; Home Stretch Greys; North Coast Greyhound; and Greyhound Friends of Massachusetts. Continental Airlines contributed to this effort by providing discounted air fares to transport some greyhounds on flights to the mainland.

The greyhound rescue effort was a significant and combined effort for Guam's animal welfare community. Under GAIN's leadership, non-profit organizations and community groups worked together to provide care and medical services to the greyhounds. As a result of GAIN's efforts, to date, 136 greyhounds have been successfully relocated to shelters and homes in the mainland and 23 greyhounds have been adopted in local homes. This rescue effort continues as GAIN and its volunteers work to locate the remaining abandoned greyhounds and to find homes for all the dogs from the former race track.

I commend the Guam Animals In Need organization for their service to our community and for their commitment to caring for animals on Guam.

CONGRATULATING THE DALLAS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2009

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I am proud to recognize the Dallas Chamber of

Commerce as they celebrate 100 years of excellence.

Founded in 1909 when the Board of Trade merged with the Commercial Club, the 150,000 Club, and the Freight Bureau, the Dallas Chamber of Commerce has emerged over a century as one of the largest member-driven organizations of businesses in the nation. Membership currently represents 3,000 businesses of all sizes and consists cumulatively of 600,000 employees. The Dallas Regional Chamber is committed to the betterment of the region through active involvement in public policy, economic development, and member engagement.

The Dallas-Fort Worth area has grown significantly in the past century and the Dallas Chamber has been there through all of it. Institutions such as Southern Methodist University, the Federal Reserve Bank, DFW airport, UT Southwestern Medical Center, and DART rail have all grown and benefited from the contributions of the Dallas Chamber.

The Chamber has also been active in the effort to ensure the region's future success through its educational outreach programs. Programs such as the Job Shadowing program and the Principal Executive Partnership, which builds relationships between educational and business leaders, illustrate the Dallas Chamber of Commerce's investment in aspects of our region's education to help provide for a well trained workforce and a stronger North Texas economy for the future.

Madam Speaker, I commend the Dallas Chamber for its long-standing service to the North Texas region, and I congratulate the organization on its centennial anniversary.

INTRODUCTION OF NATIONAL TRAILS DAY RESOLUTION

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2009

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, as co-chair of the House Trails Caucus, I am pleased to introduce a resolution highlighting National Trails Day®, which will fall this year on June 6, 2009.

National Trails Day, which was founded by the American Hiking Society, is held every year on the first Saturday of June. It is a day of public events celebrating trails coordinated by the American Hiking Society in partnership with local trail clubs, parks, government agencies, and businesses. On this day, more than 1,500 trails events will take place around the country, including hiking, paddling, biking, horseback riding, bird watching, running, trail maintenance, and other activities.

I am introducing this resolution to highlight the importance of this day and to call attention to our Nation's network of trails. Trails improve our quality of life, whether they are urban paths running through major metropolitan areas or wilderness tracks leading to remote mountaintops. Some of my favorite moments have been spent running or biking on the Leif Erickson Trail in Forest Park or hiking on the Timberline Trail around Mount Hood.

Trails provide Americans with opportunities to engage in activities that improve our physical and mental health and they promote a greater understanding of nature and a connection to communities. In addition, the hundreds